

- A. Attending:** Sylvia Murray. – Bear Paw Development, Val Golden – Office of Public Assistance, Carol Lamey & Brenda Evans – Job Service, Cathy Jamruszka, - MSU- Northern Ag. Research Center, Lori Evans – Hill County Electric/Triangle Telephone, Garnet Bergren – Havre Day Activity Center, Darrel Hannum – HRDC, Toni Svalesson – Rural Employment Opportunities

B. Agency Updates

a. Job Service

- i. Office has been fairly busy for the fall on job orders, etc. Lindy & Bev attended the Offender Employment Service training that was very informative. Carol handed out packet on Federal Bonding – anyone who can't obtain a job unless bonded is eligible for this program for up to \$5000 per bond. There has to be a job offer and the bond is issued to the employer. It is free of charge and there is no paperwork. To apply contact a local job service.
- ii. Quarterly report for those assisted: 104 WIRED 12 Adult WIA 7 Dislocated Worker
- iii. Montana minimum wage will increase: \$6.90 01/01/09 and the federal minimum wage will increase on 07/24/09 to \$7.25.
- iv. WIRED – completed 2 welding trainings, completed CDL training in collaboration with Stone Child College. Working on setting up another welding session at MSU Northern during the holiday break.

b. Hill County Electric/Triangle Communications –No report

c. HRDC

- i. Hired Gary Pfister as the WoRC case manager and he will start on 11/06/08.
- ii. Food Stamp – individuals can get the paperwork at HRDC as part of the Food Bank Network outreach to encourage individuals to apply.

d. Office of Public Assistance

- i. Currently have two positions open – one in Hill County and one in Blaine County
- ii. Food Stamps is now called Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and is no longer county any vehicles or property to determine eligibility
- iii. Child Care – It will no longer be \$200 per child limit to give deduction, but will be unlimited.
- iv. Statewide the SNAP caseload was down, however was up locally
 1. Education is needed on providers on how to be discrete and not state “Food Stamps” etc. out loud
 2. Education is also needed for recipients on how to budget and shop

e. REO

- i. Currently program is fully staffed.
- ii. Can take applications for Rural Montana Saves until 12/31/08 and then they have until 07/01/09 to make deposits. Deposits can now be making in Chinook for this program, but the applicant will have to make initial IDA with Havre staff.
- iii. Toni is a Workin' it Out Trainer and is willing to co-facilitate with other agencies
- iv. Working with the Rural Women of Montana program for the “Women in Gear” fair in Helena on the 11th for the trade fields.

f. Havre Day Activity

- i. Shelter workshops for job coaching and training for those with disability. Clients get paid minimum wage, but with that getting closer to the current staff wage a prevailing wage survey and time & motion survey may have to be completed and client wages may have to be reviewed.

g. Northern Ag Research – Has 2 positions that are open.

h. **Bear Paw Development** – will be offering Sylvia's position to a successful candidate.

C. CMT Committee Reports

D. **JobLINC Website** – no report

E. Other Items of Interest (suggestions/concerns/open forum)

a. **Nexus Facility in Lewistown** – Toni will be doing a tour tomorrow with one of the individual who was in her MFJP program and is now employed there.

F. **Next Brown Bag** –Darrel had relayed that Bullhook Clinic was interested in being a presenter and he will contact to see if this will work for them.

G. **Next meeting:** November 18, 2008 at 10:30 at Job Service

Brown Bag today follow the meeting was: Jim with Navigator program